

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 007979
ORIGIN ARA-10

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TO AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:PFOR, NU

SUBJECT: PRESS STORY ON MILITARY OPERATIONS IN NICARAGUA

REF: MADRID 0222

1. THE INFORMATION IN MADRID DAILY "DIARIO 16" ON U.S. RANGERS PRESENCE IN NICARAGUA IS WITHOUT SUBSTANCE. SIMILAR CHARGES HAVE SURFACED IN THE PAST, MOST RECENTLY IN TESTIMONY OF FERNANDO CARDEHAL, S.J. BEFORE CONGRESSMAN FRASER ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN THREE CENTRAL AMERICAN COUNTRIES. DEPARTMENT DENIAL THESE ALLEGATIONS IS INCLUDED IN PRINTED REPORT OF HEARINGS. INFORMATION IN "DIARIO 16" SHOULD BE DENIED.

2. FOR YOUR INFORMATION, SOME MEMBERS OF THE NICARAGUAN NATIONAL GUARD HAVE BEEN TRAINED BY THE GREEN BERETS AND RANGERS UNDER THE MILITARY ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT. THEY
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ARE ENTITLED TO WEAR RANGER PATCH. IN ADDITION, THERE IS A SMALL MILITARY ADVISORY GROUP IN NICARAGUA. SOME MEMBERS OF THE MILGROUP HAVE HAD RANGER TRAINING IN THE PAST AND ALSO WEAR THE RANGER SHOULDER PATCH. MILGROUP IS NOT, HOWEVER, ASSIGNED TO GON AS RANGERS.

3. ARTICLE IN "DIARIO 16" APPEARS TO REFER TO FIELD

EXERCISE CALLED "AQUILA 2" HELD IN NICARAGUA IN NOVEMBER

76 UNDER THE AUSPICES OF CENTRAL AMERICAN DEFENSE
COUNCIL. WHILE THERE WERE FOURTEEN U.S. OBSERVERS AND
MINOR SUPPORT, THERE WAS NO REPEAT NO U.S. TROOP PARTICI-
PATION IN FIELD EXERCISES.

4. ABOVE INFORMATION MAY BE USED AT YOUR DISCRETION.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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